

SIXTH  
Mistress Answer to a Book intituled  
**MAJESTIES**

**ANSWER**

**The Declaration of Remonstrance of  
the Lords and Commons of the 29. of**

**Whereunto answered two Letters**

from the Kings Majesty and the  
Honorable House of Commons

in answer to the said Declaration  
of Remonstrance

Printed by I. I. at the Sign of the  
Star in St. Dunstons Church

in the Year 1649.

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His Majesties Answer to a Book intituled  
*The Declaration, or Remonstrance of the Lords and Com-  
mons, of the 19. of May*

IF We could be weary of taking any pains for the satisfaction of Our People, & to remove them of those pernicious mischievous Influences, which are daily infused into them, to shake and corrupt their loyalty and affection to Vs and Our Government, after so full & ample Declaration of our Selfe & Intentions, so full and satisfactory answers to all such matters as have beene objected to us by a major part present of both Houses of Parliament, We might well give over this labour of our Pen, - and sit still, till it shall please God so to enlighten the Affections and Understanding of Our good Subjects, as Our behav<sup>r</sup> (which We doubt not but that in his good time He will doe) that they might see our sufferings are their sufferings. But, in case of a relying themselves to the Method proposed by Vs, of making such solid particular responses as might manifest this good Y<sup>e</sup> desireth, that we doe Vs, of the service of our Conscience, and of the service of some other common good, their services in furthering the same, they have done, and will doe, and will doe deeper, they have chosen to stand in such a manner as rather to continue and improve the same, than to change the same, in such Circumstances, and Language, as many matters formerly urged by them, and fully answered by Vs, We prevailed without Selfe, upon very mature and particular consideration of it, to answer the late Printed Book, intituled, *A Declaration in remonstrance of the Lords and Commons*, which was Ordered the nineteenth of May last, to be Printed and published, hoping then that they would put no more of this trouble, upon the world, than had beene the last of such nature they would have come to the People, and that they would see, as they have done since, that we have assault us with a Newer Declaration, indeed of a very new Nature, and Language, which must have another answer. And wee doubt not but that Our good Subjects, in short time, will be so well instructed in the differences, and distinctions betweene Vs, that they will plainly discern, without requiring their reason and understanding, Our Prevarication, in the fore-mentioned, and now printed Declaration of the Parliament (infected by a few malignant spirits) where the fault is.

Though wee shall with humility and alacrity be alwayes forward to answer the just Remonstrances, and Petitions of Our good Subjects, and to remove all such causes, as may be the cause of their discontent, yet the fault is done.

doth not allow, that we should feign and create dangers to our Selfe, that We might manifest and publish his mercy in our deliverance. We must profite. We doe not know those deliverances mentioned in the beginning of that Declaration, from so many wicked Plots and Designs since the beginning of this Parliament, which if they had taken effect, would have brought ruine and destruction upon this Kingdom. We well know the great labour and skill hath bene used to make us afright Our good Subjects with feares, and apprehensions of plots and conspiracies, the severall pamphlets published and lettses scattered up and downe full of ridiculous conceivible animadversions to that purpose, as (though they found, for what end God knowes, very unskill countenance) no sober man would be moved with them: But We must needsesse. We have never bene able to informe our Selves of any such pernicious fained designs against the peace of this Kingdom, since the beginning of this Parliament, as is mentioned in that Declaration, or might by any warrant to those great Fears both Our Houses of Parliament seemed to be transported with, that we have great cause to perceive more mischief and danger hath bene raised and begun to the disturbance of this Kingdom, then cured or prevented by those Fears and Jealousies: And therefore how ever the rumors and discourses of plots and conspiracies may have bene necessary to the defence of our selves or ours, they shall doe well not to pay any false devotions to Almighty God, who discerns whether our dangers are reall or pretended.

For the bringing up of the Army to London, as we have heretofore (by no other direction then the testimony of a good conscience) called God to witness, we never had, or knew of any such Resolution, to upon the view of the Deposition now published with that Declaration, as is not evident to us there was ever such a designe, unless very loose Discourse or Argument be instance enough of such a designe: And it is apparent, that what was said of it, was neare three months before the discovery to both Houses of Parliament to that if there were any danger threatened that way, it vanished without any resistance or opposition, by the wisdom, power or authority of them.

In former the intencion of that Declaration (whatsoever other end it had) is to answer a Declaration they received from Us, in Answer to that which was presented to Your Honour, the ninth of March last, and likewise to our Answer to the Parliament both Houses presented to Us at Trent the twenty first of March last. But before that Declaration is any way particular of our said Declaration or Answer, is complete. That the heads of the Malignant party have with much Art and Industry advised us to suffer divers unskillful scandals and imputations upon the Parliament, to be published in our Name, whereby they might make a sedition to the people, and by their helpe deliver it: But not instancing in any one scandall or imputation so published by Us. We are still to seeke for the Heads of that Malignant party. But our good Subjects will easily understand, That if we were guilty of that Asper-

tion. We must not only be active in making the it but all in passing in the Bill  
chiefly be gotten by that Statute. We being an essential part of the Parlia-  
ment: and We hope the just defence of Our selves, and our authority, and  
the necessary vindication of Our Innocence and Justice, from the Imputation  
laid on Vs by a major part, with presence of either, or both Houses, shall no  
more be called a scandal upon the Parliament, than the opinion of such a part  
be reputed an Act of Parliament: and We hope Our good Subjects will not  
be long misled by that common expression in all the Declarations, wherein  
they misuse the word Parliament, and apply it to countenance any Resolu-  
tion or Voice, some few have a mind to make by calling it, *The Repre-  
sentative Parliament*, which can never be without Our consent. Neither can the Vote  
of either, or both Houses, make a greater alteration in the Law of this King-  
dom, (so solemnly made by the advice of both Houses, with the con-  
currence of Vs and Our Advice) either by commanding or inhibiting any  
thing (besides the known Rule of the Law) than Our single Direction or  
Mandate can do, to which Vs do not assent by the Authority we are invested

But that Declaration in 1642. Our people being in Malignant party hath  
drawn Vs into the Northern parts farre from Our Parliament, to make  
more freely and properly to be said. That notwithstanding when drawn Vs  
hither for We confide, Our Towns, houses, and windows, shall have no other  
reason to be sorry, then with reference to the cause of a just and lawful  
upon Vs by the true Malignant party, which contrived and could make those  
barbarous Tumults and other actions, on the hands of which Vs have so  
often complained, and therefore that by more, and which indeed are  
so much cause to our Parliament, and to which we are so much obliged  
village and Liberty of Parliament, that we wonder it can be mentioned  
without some declaration of our opinion. But only the Malignant  
Party in 1642. charged with carrying a Petition to be presented to Us, we  
cannot imagine, neither have any Paper or Writing, and so from hence to  
Our knowledge, but what hath been extorted from Vs by the Malignant  
party, has not been before our eyes, nor known, nor published with appearance  
of our Privy and good exception, when it refers to a power to send what  
ever they think fit to say to the people, a thing unwarranted by former call  
some) that we should not make use of all which means to publish Our  
just and necessary Answer thereunto. As for the Authority of the great  
Seal, I thought we did not know that it hath been necessary to this day  
this matter, therefore that be more generally used necessary to be con-  
sidered, to what we have to do the greater and better part of  
Our Privy Council will concur, and what Advice we are obliged to  
follow, which we have always been, and shall be, in all our Affairs of the King-  
dom.

Before that Declaration was made to him on any particular, it is de-  
clared to censure both Our Declaration and Answer, to be signed and sent  
you



Grants, and confesse Charges upon the Parliament, (still misapplying the  
 word Parliament to the Vote of both Houses) concerning which they resolve  
 to give satisfaction to the Kingdom, since they finde it very difficult to sa-  
 tisfie Vs. If, as in the usage of the Word Parliament, they have left Vs out  
 of their thoughts; so by the word Kingdom, they intend to exclude all  
 Our people, who are out of their walls: (for that's growing another phrase  
 of the Time, the Vote of the major part of both Houses, and sometimes of  
 one is now called *The Resolution of the whole Kingdom*.) We beleeve it may not  
 be hard to give satisfaction to themselves; otherwise We are confident (and  
 Our confidence proceeds from the uprightness of Our owne Conscience) that  
 they will never be able to satisfy the affections of Vs and Our Kingdom, that  
 what cannot be satisfaction to the one shall be to the other. Neither will  
 the Scales of Humble, and Faithfull, and telling us, That they will make  
 Vs a Great and Glorious King, in their Petitions and Remonstrances, so  
 deceive Our good Subjects, that they will passe over the Reproaches, Treasons  
 and Murders they are suffred with, which sure could not be more gently re-  
 prehended by Vs, than by saying, Their expressions were different from the  
 usuall Language to Princes, which that Declaration tells you. We had no oc-  
 casion to say, But We desire, who so ever looks over that Declaration pre-  
 sented to Vs at Newmarket, to which Ours was an Answer, will finde the  
 Language both honest, and so usuall, that before this Parliament, it  
 could not be called either way, because the presence of justifying their leaves  
 they give to much countenance to the disclosure of the Rebels of *Irish*, as if  
 they had aimed Our good Subjects should give credit to it: Otherwise being  
 warranted by the same evidence, which they have since published, they would  
 have been well declared, That those Rebels possibly declared the raising one  
 the name of the English, and that they will have a King of their owne, and no  
 longer be governed by Vs; as that they say, That they do nothing but by Our  
 Authority, and that they call themselves, The Queenes Army. And there-  
 fore we have great reason to complaine of the absence of Justice and Equity  
 in this Declaration, beside the untruthfulness of other expressions. Neither did We  
 mistake the Substance of Logick of the Message to Vs at *Leicester*, concerning  
 the *Militia*, which was no other, and intimated to be no other, (even by that  
 Declaration which reproved Vs) than a plaine threat, That if We refused to  
 joyn with them, they would make a Law without Vs, nor hath the Pri-  
 vee Sense that is therein other, which will never be intimated to the most ordi-  
 nary (if not private) understandings, by the meer averring it to be accord-  
 ing to the fundamentall Lawes of this Kingdom, without giving any dire-  
 ction, either the most cunning and learned men in the Lawes, may be able to  
 find those foundations. And We must appeale to all the World, which they  
 might not trouble some Justice, and by an such Law, have seized upon the  
 estate of every Member of both Houses, who differed from that pretended  
 Ordinance, which is such the major part of the House of Peeres did vote, or

three severall times) as they have invaded that power of ours over the *Act-ists*, because we (upon Reason) did have not so much as pretended to answer, refused to consent to that Proposition: And if no better effects then loss of time, and hinderance of the publick affaires, have beene caused by our Answers and Replies, let all good men judge, by whose default, and whose want of duty such effects have beene: For as our end (indeed onely end) in these Answers and Replies hath beene, The satisfaction and composition of public like affaires, so we are assured, and most men do believe, That if that due Regard and Reverence had beene given to our words, and that consent and obedience to our counsell, which we did expect, there had beene before this time a cheerefull calme upon the face of the whole Kingdome; every man enjoying his owne, with all possible peace and security that can be imagined, which surely those men doe not desire, who (after all these Acts of Justice and Favours passed by Vs this Parliament, all those affronts and sufferings endured, and undergone by Vs) thinke fit still to reproach us with Ship money, Coach and Conduitt money, and other things so abundantly declared, as that Declaration it selfe confutes in the generall Remonstrances of the State of the Kingdome, published in November last, which we wonder to finde now avowed by the Remonstrance of both Houses, and which as a sure was presented to Vs onely by the House of Commons, & did never, and never could be in that time, could never have passed the House of Peeres, the Consideration and Authority of which was not then at all necessary. Shall we believe those Reproaches to be the voice of the Kingdome of England? That all loving Subjects ease, refreshed, strengthened, and abundantly satisfied with our Acts of Grace and Favour towards them, are willing to be intreated in these unthankfull expressions? We must appeale to the Thanks and Acknowledgements published in the Petitions of most of the Countie of *Anges* to the testimony and thanks we have received from both Houses of Parliament, how reasonable, how agreeable this usage of us is to our merit, or their former expressions.

We have not at all swayed or departed from our Resolution, or words in the beginning of this Parliament: We said we were resolved to put our faith freely and clearly upon the Love and Affection of our English Subjects, and we say so still, as farre as concerneth England. And we call Almighty God to witnesse all our Compliments and Jealousies, which have never beene cause of lessening of our Houses of Parliament (but of some few Schismaticall, Factionall, and Ambitious Spirits, and upon grounds, as short time, wee scarce, will justify the world) our deniall of the *Milline*, our absending our selves from *London*, have beene the effects of an upright and faithfull affection to our English Subjects, that we may be able (through all the intemperances we are compelled to wrastle with) at last to preserve and restore their Religion, Lawes, and Liberties unto them.

Since the proceeding against the Lord *Kimberlin*, and the five Members, is

still

still looked upon, and so, *et cetera*, as if they were an advantage to the  
 House of Commons, and as if they were a *disadvantage* to the House of Commons.  
 against the House of Commons, and as if they were a *disadvantage* to the House of Commons.  
 have our good Subjects believe, the Assertion of those six Members will be  
 a plot for the breaking themselves of the Parliament, (a strange arrogancy  
 of those Members, and the passing of that Declaration, and that it is so  
 considered against the House, and by the single usual mistake of some in former  
 years, who considered all Duty, Obedience, and Allegiance from our people, as  
 without any consideration of what that which intrude was an error, (Our  
 going to the House of Commons) give our people clear and full satisfaction  
 of the matter, and so, assuring our Selves that our good Subjects will not find  
 our carriage in this business such as hath been reported.  
 When we resolved upon such grounds, as when they shall be published, will  
 satisfy the world, That it was for our own Safety, and Honour, and the  
 Peace of the Kingdom, so proceed against those persons, though we well know  
 there was no degree of offence in that case, yet (to show our desire of cor-  
 responding with the two Houses of Parliament) we chose, rather, then to  
 apprehend their persons, by the ordinary Ministers of Justice (which, accord-  
 ing to the custom and practice of former times, we might have done) to  
 send them to the House of Commons, to acquaint our House of Peers with our in-  
 tention, and the general nature of the offence (which was yet more particu-  
 larly, to wit, a servant, a sergeant at Arms to our House of Commons, to ac-  
 quaint them, that he did accuse, and intended to prosecute the five Members of  
 that House for high Treason, and did require their persons, might be se-  
 ized in custody: This we did, not only so that we intended not to vio-  
 late or invade their Privileges, but to use more Courtesy towards them,  
 than we think we received in Justice might be required of us, and expected at  
 least such an answer as might inform us, if we were out of the way, but we  
 received none at all, merely in the instant, and our offering anything of their  
 Privileges to our consideration, as an order was made (and the same might  
 published in Print) That if any person whatsoever should offer to Arrest or  
 person of any Member of that House, without first acquainting that House  
 therewith, and receiving further order from that House, That it should be  
 lawfull for such Members, or any person to assist them, and so stand upon his  
 or their Guard of Defence, and to make resistance according to the Protes-  
 tation taken to defend the Privileges of Parliament; and this was the first time  
 that we had the Protestation might be directed to such a sense; on that in  
 any Case (though of themselves undoubted and unquestionable Privileges) it  
 might be lawfull for any person to resist, and use violence against a public  
 Minister

of Justice, armed with lawful Authority, though we well knew  
 that we were in a Minister might be punished for executing such Authority.  
 Upon viewing this Order we must confess we were shocked, and that we  
 never felt, or heard of the like; and though we had known the Members of  
 that House committed without so much Formality, we had used, and upon  
 Consideration of a more inferiour nature so hold we had suggested, and having no  
 course proposed to us for Our proceeding, we were upon the matter easily  
 told, That against those Persons we were not to proceed at all; That they  
 were more Our reach, or the reach of the Law, as we were more for us to  
 serve what to do, if we employed Our Ministers of Justice in the usual way  
 for such apprehensions, who without doubt would not have refused to exe-  
 cute Our lawful Commands. We saw what Resistance and Opposition was  
 like to be made, which very probably might cost some Blood. If we still  
 intended to put this to the test, we should in the best have considered Our own  
 want of power, and the weakness of the Law, in this straight we put out a  
 hidden Resolution to try whether our laws presence, and a sincere discovery  
 of Our Affections, which happily might not have been so well understood, should  
 move those doubts, and remove those inconveniences, which seemed  
 to have been threatened; and thereupon we resolved to come in Our House  
 to our House of Commons, which we did, and did not then any manner  
 of Our going, when we sent out that Our Sermons, and that Our Sermons  
 were then in Our Courts, should be in Our Sermons, but giving them  
 explicit commands, that they should be in Our Sermons, but giving them  
 that no Accidents or Provocation should draw them to any such Actions,  
 might imply a purpose of force in us, and Ourself (we quietly those of Our  
 Friends not to come within the doors) went into the House of Commons;  
 the date being such, which we did not then come, we would have been thought  
 more a breach of Privilege, than if we had gone to the House of Peers, and  
 then to them to come to us, which is the usual custom; We used the best  
 expressions we could to assure them how far we were from any intention of  
 using any such Privilege, That we intended to proceed legally and speedily  
 against the persons we had accused, and desired therefore, if they were in the  
 House, that they might be delivered to us, or if absent, that such notice  
 might be taken, that they might continue as might satisfy Our just demands;  
 and so we departed, having no other purpose of force, if they had been in  
 the House, then we have before protested, before God, in Our Answer to the  
 Ordinance, that we have no manner of Our part of this Statute, let our peo-  
 ple be as steady as it, we have followed on their part (though in the Declaration  
 before you is could not withhold any part of their Reverence and Obedience  
 from us, it may be any part of their rebellion) we shall have no such cause  
 to inform the world.

There



There will be no end of the Discourse, and upbraiding Us with evill Counsellors, if upon Our constant deniall of knowing any they will not vouchsafe to informe Us of them; and after eight Moneths smiting the Kingdome with the expectation of a discovery of a Malignant Party, and of evill Counsellors, they will not at last name any, nor describe them: Let the Actions and Lives of men be examined, who have contrived, counselled, actually consented to grieve and burthen Our people; and if such be about Us, or any against whom any notorious malicious Crime can be proved, if We shelter and protect any such, let Our injustice be published to the world; but till that be done particularly and manifestly, for VVe shall never conclude any man upon a bare generall Voce of the Major part of either or both Houses; all it be evident that Major part must be without passion or affection: VVe must look upon the charge this Declaration puts on Us, of cherishing & countenancing a discontented Party of the Kingdome against themselves as a heavier and unjustier tax upon Our Justice and Honor then any We have, or can lay upon the framers of that Declaration.

And now, to countenance those unthanion Exports, whereby usually they have employed Our connivence at, or want of Zeale against the Rebellion of Ireland, (so odious to good men) they have found a new way of exportation; That those Informations, and those bloody Traytors, came not out till the beginning of January, though that Rebellion broke out in *October*, and then by speciall Command from Us, our *Irish* Copies were appointed to be Printed. 'Tis well known where We were at that time, when that Rebellion brake forth in *Scotland*: That we immediately, from thence, recommended the care of that business to both Houses of Parliament here, after we had provided for all fitting supplies from Our Kingdome of *Scotland*; then after Our returne hither We observed all those forms for that service, which we were advised to by Our Councell of *Ireland*, or both Houses of Parliament there: And if no Proclamation issued out sooner (of which for the present We are not certain, but think that others before that time were issued by Our direction) it was, because the Lords Justices of the Kingdom desired them no sooner; and when they did the number they desired was but twenty, which they desired might be signed by Us; which We, for expedition of the service Commanded to be printed (a circumstance not required by them) and thereupon We Signed more of them then Our Justices desired: All which was very well known to some Members of one or both Houses of Parliament, who have the more to answer, if they forbore to expresse it at the passing of this Declaration; and if they did expresse it, We have the greater reason to complaine, that so envious an Aspersion would be cast on Us to Our People, when they knew well how to answer their own Objection.

What that complaint is against the Parliament, put forth in Our Name, which is such an evidence and countenance to the Rebels, and speaks the same language of the Parliament, which the Rebels doe, We cannot understand.

Our Answers and Declarations have been, and are owned by Us, and have been  
 attested under Our own hand; If any other had been published in Our Name,  
 and without Our Authority, it would be easie for both Houses of Parliament  
 to discover and apprehend the Authors: And We wish, that whosoever was  
 trusted with the Drawing and Penning of that Declaration, had no more au-  
 thority or cunning to impose upon, or deceive a major part of those Votes by  
 which it passed, then any man hath to prevaile with Us, to publish in Our  
 Name any thing but the sense and Resolution of Our own Heart: Or that the  
 contriver of that Declaration could with as good a Conscience call God to  
 witnesse, that all His Counsels and Endeavors have been free from all private  
 aim, Personall Respects, or Passions whatsoever, as We have done & do. That  
 We never had or knew of such Resolutions of bringing up the army to Lon-  
 don. And since this new device is found out in stead of answering Our Reasons,  
 or satisfying Our just demands, to blasse Our Declarations and answers, as if  
 they were not Our own (a bold senselesse Imputation) We are sure that every  
 answer and Declaration published by Us, is much more Our own, then any  
 one of those bold, threatening, and reproachfull Petitions and Remonstrances  
 are the acts of either, or of both Houses. And if the Penner of that Declaration  
 had been careful of the Trust reposed in him, he would never have denied (and  
 thereupon found fault with Our just Indignation) in the Text or Margent,  
 that We had never been charged with the pretention of any Force, and that in  
 their whol Declaration, there is no word tending to such a reproach; the  
 contrary whereof is so evident, that We are in expresse termes charged in that  
 Declaration, That VVe sent them gracious Messages, when, with Our privacy,  
 bringing up the Army was in agitation. And even in this Declaration, they  
 seek to make Our People believe some such thing, to be proved in the Depo-  
 sitions now published, wherein We doubt not, they will as much faile as they  
 doe in their Censure of that Petition shewed formerly to Us by Captain Legg  
 and subscribed by Us with C. R. which notwithstanding Our full particular  
 Narration of the substance of that Petition, the circumstances of Our seeing &  
 approving it, this Declaration is pleased to say, was full of scandall to the Par-  
 liament, and might have proved dangerous to the whole Kingdome. If they  
 have this dangerous Petition in their hands Wee have no reason to be-  
 lieve any tendresse to Us-ward hath kept them from communicating it;  
 If they have it not, we ought to have been believed: But that all good people  
 may compute their other pretended dangers by their cleer understanding of  
 this, thenoyse whereof hath not been inferiour to any of the rest, we have re-  
 covered a true Copy of the very Petition We signed with C. R. which shall in  
 fit time be published, and which, VVe hope, will open the eyes of Our good  
 People.

Concerning Our warrant for Master *Jermys* passage, Our answer was true  
 and full; But for his black Sash and Surr, and white boots, VVe can give no ac-  
 count.

VVe

We complained in our Declaration, and as often as we have occasion to mention Our returne and residence nere *London*, VVe shall complain of the barbarous and seditious Tumults at *Westminster* and *Whitehall*, which indeed were so full of scandall to our Government, and danger to Our Person, that VVe shall never think of our Returne thither, till we have Justice for what is past, and security for the time to come. And if there were so great a necessity, or desire of Our Returne as is pretended in all this time, upon so often pressing Our Desires, and upon causes so notorious, VVe should at least have procured some Order for the future. But that Declaration tells Us VVe are upon the matter mistaken. The resort of the *Climent* to *Westminster* was as lawfull as the resort of great numbers every day in the Term to the ordinary Court of Justice: They knew no Tumults. Strange was the disorderly appearance of so many thousand people with Staves and Swords, crying through the Streets, *Westminster Hall*, the passage between both Houses (inasmuch as the Members could hardly passe to and fro) No Bishops, Down with the Bishops, no Tumults? what Member is there of either House that saw not those numbers, and heard not those cries? And yet lawfull Assemblies: Were not severall Members of either House assaulted, threatened, and ill intreated? And yet no Tumults: Why made the House of Peeres a Declaration, and sent down to the House of Commons, for the suppressing of Tumults, if there were no Tumults? And if there were any, why was not such a Declaration consented to, and published? When the attempts were so visible, and the threats so loud to pull down the Abbey at *Westminster*, had not VVe cause to apprehend, That such people might continue their worke to *White Hall*? Yet no Tumults. VVhat a strange time are we in, that a few Impudent, Malitious (to give them no worse name) men should call such a strange mist of error before the eyes of both Houses of Parliament, as that they either cannot, or will not see how manifestly they injure themselves, by maintaining these visible untruths: We say no more. By the helpe of God, and the Law, We will have Justice for those Tumults.

From excepting (how weightily let every man judge) to what We have said, that Declaration proceeds to censure Us for what We have not said, for the prudent Omissions in Our Answer: We forbore to say any thing of the words spoken at *Kensington*; or the Articles against our dearest Consort; and of the Accusation of the six Members: Of the last we had spoken often, and We thought enough of the other two; having never abused any (though God knowes what truth there might be in either) We have no reason to give any particular answer.

We doe not reckon Our Selfe deprived of any part of Our Prerogative, which We are pleased, for a time, to part with by Bill; yet we must say, We expressed a

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great question in Our two Houses of Parliament, when we directed Our Self of the  
House of Commons to the House of Lords, which was a most necessary and proper  
thing, and was agreed in these their Resolution, that it should be the  
business of the House of Commons, which otherwise had not been as to have been done. It is  
very plain, it will be such a breach of Trust, God will require an account for as their  
hands.

For the *Militia*, we have said so much in it heretofore, and the point is so  
well understood by all men, that we will waste time no more in that dispute.  
We never said, There was no such thing as an Ordinance (though we know  
what they say is here long disputed) but that there was never any Ordinance,  
nor can be without the Kings consent, and that is true, and the unnecessary  
President cited in the Declaration, doth not offer to prove the contrary: But  
enough of that, God and the Law must determine of that business.

Neither hath this declaration given Us any satisfaction, concerning the  
Words of the fifth and sixth of March last, which we must declare,  
and appeal to all the world in the point, to be the breach violation of Our  
Privilege, the Law of the Land, the liberty of the Subject, and the  
Right of Parliament, that can be imagined. One of those Votes is (and there  
needs no other to destroy the King and People) that when the Lords and  
Commons (as well the Commons are admitted to sit in judgement)  
shall declare what the Law of the Land is, the same shall be taken to, and  
obeyed; that is the force of the words. Where is every Mans Property, e-  
very Mans Liberty? If a major part of both Houses declare, that the Law  
is, that the younger Brother shall inherit, what a become of all the families  
and Estates in the Kingdom? If they declare, That by the fundamentall Law  
of the Land, such a rapacious, such an unadvised word ought to be puni-  
shed by perpetual imprisonment: Is not the Liberty of the Subject, *De-  
stroyed* by this, remediable? That Declaration confesseth, They pretend  
not to a power of making new Laws. That without Us, they cannot doe  
that: They need no such power, if their Declaration can suspend this Sta-  
tute from being obeyed or executed, and make this Order, which is no Sta-  
tute, to be obeyed and executed. If they have Power to declare the Lord  
Ditcham, waiting on Us to Hampton Court, and thence visiting some Offi-  
cers at Kingston, with a Coach and six Horses, to be leaving of Warre,  
and High Treason; and Sir John hath my desire Us to Our face, keeping  
Our Towne, Fort, and Goods against Us, by force of Armes, to be  
an Act of Affection and Loyalty. What needs a power of making new Laws?  
Or is there such a thing as Law left? We desire our good Subjects to mark  
the Reason and Consequence of these Votes, the progresse they have at-  
tained, and how in danger the progresse may be. First, They have the King-  
dome in imminent danger (as it appears three months since they discerned it) from  
dissension.



Permits abroad, and in Popish and disaffected Party at Home: This is  
 matter of Fact; the Law follows: This Vote hath given them authority by  
 the use of the fundamentall Lawes of the Kingdome, to order and dispose  
 of the Militia of the Kingdome, and with this power, and to prevent their  
 Danger, to enter into Our Townes, seize upon Our Magazines, and by  
 Force, keepe both from Us: What this our Right? First, they Vote Wee have  
 an intention to have Warre against Our Parliament; this is matter of fact:  
 Then they declare, Such as shall assist Us, to be guilty of high Treason;  
 that is the Law, and proved by two Statutes, themselves know to be repealed:  
 No matter for that; They declare it. Upon this ground they exercise the Mil-  
 itia, and so actually doe that upon Us, which they have Voted We intend to doe  
 upon them: Who doth not see the confusion that must follow upon such a power of  
 declaring? If they should now Vote, That Wee did not write this Declaration, but  
 that such a one did it, which is still matter of fact, and then declare, That for  
 so doing, he is an enemy to the Commonwealth; who is, in breach of the Law that  
 is made herein to defend all their rights for the defence of the Law, he has to  
 defend thus which they declare to be Law, their own Votes, it will not be in  
 their power to satisfy any man of their good intentions, to the publike peace, but  
 such who are willing to distinguish his title to Magna Charta, and hold his life and  
 fortune by the Nose, as a piece of broken Hoofe: In a word, We deny not but  
 that they may have a power to declare in a particular doubtful case regularly brought  
 before them: what is contrary but makes a general Declaration, whereby the  
 honest Rule of the Law may be established, and they have no power, nor can ex-  
 ercise any, without bringing about the Liberty of the subject to a Lawless  
 and arbitrary judgement.

¶ VVee complained (and let the world judge the Justice and necessity of that)  
 Complaint of the multitude of seditious Pamphlets and Sermons. And that  
 Declaration is Vs. They know we have wayes enough in our ordinary  
 Courts of Justice to punish those: So wee have to punish Tumults and Ri-  
 ois, and yet they will not serve Our turne to keepe Our Townes, Our For-  
 tresses, and Parks from violence. And it may be thought those Courts have  
 still the power to punish, they may have lost the skill to define what Riots  
 and Tumults are; otherwise a Jury in *Southerne*, legally impanelled to ex-  
 amine a Riot there, would not have been superseded, and the Sheriffs enjoined  
 to proceed, by vertue of an Order of the House of Commons; which it  
 seems at that time, had the sole power of declaring. But it is no wonder,  
 That they who could not see the Tumults, doe not consider the Pamphlets  
 and Sermons; though the Author of the Protestation protested, he well knowe  
 to be *Warton* (that infamous disturber of the peace of this Church and State)  
 and that he preached it at *St. Dunstons*, in the hearing of divers Members of the  
 House of Commons: But of such Pamphlets, and seditious Preachers (divers  
 whereof have beene recommended, if not imposed upon severall Parishes, by  
 some Members of both Houses, by what authority We know not; We shall  
 hereafter take a further account.

We

We confesse, we have little skill in the Laws, and those that have had most, we now finde are much to seek: Yet we cannot understand or believe; That every ordinary Court, or any Court, hath power to raise what Guard they please, and under what Command they please; Neither can We imagine what dangerous effects they found by the Guard We appointed them, or (indeed) any the least occasion why they needed a Guard at all.

But of all the Imputations so causlessly and unjustly laid upon Us by that Declaration, We must wonder at that charge so apparantly and evidently untrue, That such are continually preferred and countenanced by Us, who are Friends or Favourers, or related unto the chiefe Authors and Actors of that Arbitrary power heretofore practised and complained of: And on the other side, That such as did appeare against it, are daily discountenanced and disgraced. We would know one Person that contibuted to the Ills of those Times, or had dependance upon those that did, whom We doe, or lately have countenanced or preferred. Nay, We are confident (and We look for no other at their hands) as they have been alwayes most eminent Assertors of the publike Liberties; so if they found Us inclined to any thing not agreeable to Honour and Justice, they would leave Us to morrow: Whether different Persons have not, and doe not receive countenance elsewhere, and upon what grouns; let all men Judge; and whether We have not been forward enough to honour and prefer those of the most contrary opinion, how little concernes us. We have hid of those preferments, in bestowing of which, hereafter We shall be more guided by great Actions, then Opinions: And therefore we had good cause to bestow that admonition of Our own upon both Our Houses of Parliament, to take heed of inclining, under the specious shews of Necessity and Danger, to the exercise of such an Arbitrary power they complained of: The advice will doe no harm; and we shall be glad to see it followed.

And all the specious Premises, and loud Professions, of making Us a Great and Glorious King, Of seeling a greater Revenue upon Us, then any of Our Ancestors have enjoyed, Of making us to be Honoured at home, and Revered abroad, resolved into this, That they will be ready to settle Our Revenue, in an Honorable Proportion; when We shall put Our Selfe in such a Posture of Government that Our Subjects may be secure to enjoy Our just Protection for their Religion, Lawes, and Liberties: What Posture of Government they intend We know not, nor can We imagine what Security Our good Subjects can desire for their Religion, Lawes, and Liberties, which We have not offered, or fully given. And it is futable to the duty and dignity of both Houses of Parliament, to answer Our particular weighty Expressions of the Causes of our Remove from London (so generally known to the Kingdom) with a Scoffe, That they hope We were driven from thence, not by our own Fears, but by the Fears of the Lord Digby, and his Retinue of Cavaliers? Sure the Penner of that Declaration inserted that ungrace and insolent Expression (as he hath done divers others) without the consent or examination of both Houses; who would not so lightly have departed from a true former professions of duty to Us

Whe-

Whether the way to a good Understanding between his and Our people hath been as zealously pressed by them, as it hath been professed and desired by Us, will be easily discerned by those who observe, that VVe have left no publique Act undone on Our part, which in the least degree might be necessary to the Peace, Plenty, and Security of Our Subjects, and that they have not dispatched one Act which hath given the least evidence of their particular Affection and Kindnes to Us: But on the contrary, have discountenanced and hindered the testimony other men would give to Us of their affections: with the stopping and keeping back the Bill of Subsidies granted by the Clergy, almost a yeare since; which, though Our personall wants are so notoriously known, they will not to this time, passe: So not onely forbearing to supply Us themselves, but keeping the Love and Bounty of other men from Us, and afford Us no other Answers to all Our Desires, all Our Reasons (indeed now to be answered) then, That We must not make Our Understanding or Reason the Rule of Our government, but suffer Our Selfe to be assailed (which VVe never denied) by Our great Council. VVe require no other Liberty to Our will, then the meanest of them doe (VVe wish they would alwaies use that Liberty) not to consent to any thing evidently contrary to Our Conscience and Understanding: and VVe have, and shall alwaies give as much estimation and regard to the Advice and Counsell of both Our Houses of Parliament, as ever Prince hath done: but VVe shall never (and VVe hope Our people will never) account the contrivance of seditious, Seditious persons, a Malignant Party, who would sacrifice the Common weale to their own fury and ambition; the wisdom of Parliament; and that the justifying and defending such persons (of whom, and of their particular sinister wayes to compass their own bad ends, We shall shortly informe the world) is not the way to serve Parliaments, but is the opposing & preferring the consideration of a few unworthy persons, before their duty to their King, or their care of the Kingdom. They would have Us remember that Our Resolutions do concern Kingdoms, & therefore not to be molded by Our own Understanding: We well remember it; But We would have them remember, That when their Consultations endeavor to lessen the Office and Dignity of a King, they meddle with that which is not within their determination, and of which VVe must give an account to God and Our other Kingdoms, and must maintain with the sacrifice of Our life.

lastly, that Declaration tells you of a present desperate and malicious Plot, the Malignant Party is now acting under the plausible Notions of stirring Men up to a care of preserving the Kings Prerogative, maintaining the Discipline of the Church, upholding and continuing the Reverence and Solemnity of GODS Service, and encouraging Learning (indeed plausible and honorable Notions to act any thing upon) and that upon these grounds divers malicious Petitions have bene framed in London,

Kent, and other places. Upon what Grounds would these new Petitions framed? Nay, to many Petitions (sent against the Form and Constitution of the Kingdom, and the Laws established) been joyfully received and accepted? And shall Petitions framed upon these Grounds, be called Mutinous? Much a multitude of Men, unknown, inconsiderable, contemptible persons about the City and suburbs of London, had liberty to petition against the Government of the Church, against a Book of Common Prayer, against the Freedoms and Privilege of Parliament, and been thanked for it. And shall it be called mutiny to the gravest and best Citizens of London, in the Gentry and Commonalty of Kent, to frame Petitions upon these grounds, and to desire to be governed by the known Laws of the Land, not by Orders and Votes of Clergy, or both Houses? Can this be thought the unwise and Justice of both Houses of Parliament? Is it not evidently the work of a Faction within or without both Houses, who deceive this Trust reposed in them, and have now told Us what Minions to stir Men up to a Case of protesting Our Prerogative, maintaining the Discipline of the Church, upholding and continuing the Reverence and Solemnity of Gods Service, encouraging of Learning, &c. Ministry? Ues Heaven and Earth, God and Man, judge between Us and these Men! And however such Petitions, there, called Mutinous, and the Petitioners Thence, Discommodious, Disloyal, and Impertinent. If they bring such lawful Petitions to Us, we will graciously receive them, and defend them and their Petitioners, as our power cometh to our defence, and of hazard of our selves.

We have also to remember (so Our very great pain) in this Affaire, that We might give Us to understand, from the mouth of all Particulars which have been presented to Us, and that VVe may not be again reproached with our unwise and unskillful Questions. If VVe have been compelled so sharply to answer them, we are much, as it is to be considered, how vile, how insupportable, how dangerous, how hurtful, and how a scandal Force been shew'd, and how much it will wound any Answer to rough and insolent Demands, be it what it will. VVe consider the world will scold Us of too much softness, and that Our good Subjects will think VVe are not well dealt with, and that the Judge of the end of this our haplesse and security is Us by Our Althow, which VVe desire may no longer prosper, or have a biding from God upon them and Us, then they shall be directed to the glory of God, in the maintenance of the true Protestant Religion, to the preservation of the Property and the Liberty of the Subjects, in the maintenance of the Lawes, and the maintenance of the Rights and Freedoms of Parliament, in the allowance and protection of all their just Privileges.

FINIS.



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